Delay in appointment of CMD of ONGC

817. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been inordinate delay in the appointment of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD) of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC);

(b) whether it is a fact that the panel recommended by the Public Enterprises Selection Board was scrapped; and

(c) if so, when the post had fallen vacant; when the PESB had recommended the panel and when and why it was scrapped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The post of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has fallen vacant with effect from 25.5.2006, consequent on the expiry of the five year term of Shri Subir Raha, then CMD, ONGC. The Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB) had recommended the panel on 30.8.2006. The proposal of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for appointment of Shri R.S. Sharma, Director (Finance), ONGC from the panel recommended by the PESB, as CMD ONGC had been returned on 6.2.2007 by the Competent Authority with direction to provide for fresh selection from a wider choice including candidates from outside PSUs, and also that the selection of CMD ONGC be made through a Search-cum-Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Chairman, PESB.

Black marketing and under weighing of LPG cylinders

†818. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether crisis of LPG cylinders has emerged in the country due to inadequate supply of LPG cylinders;

(b) whether Government are aware that alleged black marketing of LPG cylidners is taking palce in Western Uttar Pradesh due to problem of demand and supply; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.